

## Meeting on 17/08/2016

Quite a wide range of subjects were arisen during our meeting held on August 17. If you just look at the picture you might wonder how Tom could be afraid of Ilyas. The answer is hidden in a video where Tom conveyed his speech.



Greg led the meeting as a Toastmaster and Zhadra fulfilled the role of the General Evaluator.

Zhansaya presented us her project #4 titled 'The Important Question to Ask Yourself?'. She shared her personal story about setting up goals but not achieving them yet. To determine why that happened she surf the Internet and found out the article of a blogger Mark Manson called 'The most important question of your life?'. It was about people's desires to attain their aims by focusing on the results and rewards only, but not enjoying the process and not willing to pay the cost of their dreams. So the most important question to ask yourself was 'What were you willing to struggle for?'. As Manson said a person was defined by the values he/she was willing to struggle for. Therefore, our struggles determined our successes.

Ainur delivered her project #6 on vocal variety called 'My Beloved Almaty?'. She came from Astana and told us about her impressions about Almaty. Ainur went through different stages of getting used to new environment, like honeymoon, cultural shock, adaptation and reverse culture shock. It was interesting to know what kind of experience people had when they start living in our city. In case of Ainur, she went through favourable, challenging and funny situations. All of that taught her to be positive, flexible and open-minded.

Tom demonstrated his storytelling ability on his speech 'Pay it Back?'. Everyone was captured by his story as it was very exciting and gripping! The moral of the tale was about treating other people as you wanted to be treated.

Gaukhar Axakalova continued the meeting as a Table Topics Master with a presentation 'Love is around us?'. She asked different questions on love between men and women, people and their pets and other manifestation of love that surround us. She encouraged the audience to love and support each other.

Congratulations to our winners: Tom and Yermurat, who became the best prepared and impromptu speakers respectively and Ilyas, who gained the vast majority of voices for the speech evaluation!

Gaukhar Axakalova was determined as a new VP of Events after the voting process. Best wishes for you in this new stage!